

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Environmental Protection Commission**

ITEM

10

DECISION

**TOPIC Contract - Iowa State University for Nonwadeable Stream Assessment
Development**

The Department requests Commission approval of a contract for the amount of \$88,887 with Dr. Michael Quist and Iowa State University for development of a nonwadeable stream assessment program.

The Clean Water Act requires comprehensive monitoring and assessment of all waters of the state. However, the state lacks monitoring and assessment methodologies on some water body types, such as nonwadeable streams, which prevents meeting this Clean Water Act goal. The purpose of this contract is to begin a multi-year collaborative project with ISU, DNR, and the University of Iowa Hygienic Laboratory to develop monitoring and assessment methods designed for and calibrated to nonwadeable streams.

The contract period is from June 5, 2007 – June 30, 2008.

Specifically for this contract, ISU will:

- 5.1 Characterize nonwadeable streams using a variety of GIS techniques.
- 5.2 Identify candidate least- and highly-disturbed reference sites
- 5.3 Evaluate sampling designs and protocols
- 5.4 Identify assessment sampling sites
 - (a) Probabilistic sites
 - (b) Targeted sites (i.e., least- and highly-disturbed references sites)
- 5.5 Execute the sampling design
- 5.6 Assemble and calibrate biological condition metrics and develop indices
- 5.7 Implement assessment and monitoring program
- 5.8 Prepare a Quality Assurance Program Plan in conjunction with DNR staff.

Funding for this contract comes from state water monitoring funds appropriated under the Environment First Infrastructure Fund and from the Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Program.

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